

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An apparatus of driving a light source for a display device, the apparatus comprising:

an electricity supplying unit supplying electricity to the light source;

5 a current sensor detecting a current outputted from the electricity supplying unit; and

a light controller controlling the electricity supplying unit based on a signal from the current sensor and a dimming control signal from an external device.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the electricity supplying unit comprises
10 a transformer including a primary coil and a secondary coil and applying a voltage induced in the secondary coil to the light source.

3. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the current sensor senses a current related to the primary coil of the transformer.

4. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the current sensor is connected to the
15 secondary coil of the transformer and senses a current in the secondary coil of the transformer.

5. The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the electricity supplying unit further comprises:

a switching unit switching an input voltage from an external device under the
20 control of the light controller; and

an oscillator generating an AC voltage based on the input voltage from the switching unit and supplies the generated AC voltage to the primary coil of the transformer.

6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the current sensor is connected to the
25 oscillator and senses a current in the oscillator.

7. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the current sensor is connected to the secondary coil of the transformer and senses a current in the secondary coil of the transformer.

8. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the light controller controls the
30 switching unit in a pulse width modulation manner based on the dimming control signal and the signal from the current sensor.

9. The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the light controller determines an overcurrent in the light source on the basis of the signal from the current sensor and turns on/off the switching unit based on the determination of the overcurrent.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the current sensor comprises a
5 capacitor and a diode connected in parallel between the electricity supplying unit and a predetermined voltage and a voltage divider connected to the capacitor and the diode and to and the light controller.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the light source includes a fluorescent lamp.

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